

Next GARS Meeting is
February 14, 2012
at EAA 690 Hangar at Briscoe Field
Lawrenceville, GA

The **GARzette**

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
February 2012 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 21, Issue 2



TECHFEST 2012 is history, but the memories linger long!



A Note from our President

We are celebrating one of the biggest (probably THE biggest) TechFest GARS has ever hosted. We estimate that there were about 500 people in attendance. This year's raffle was a huge success, as was the VE session where 19 people were tested, including me. The new facility worked out great. Many people from our club, *numerous* other groups, and other individuals worked very hard before, during, and after this event to make it the great success it was. Our thanks goes out to each and every one of you for helping to make this wonderful event a reality.

A second magnificent bit of news is that GARS now has an APRS Igate. An Igate is an Internet gateway, and in our case the gateway is bidirectional. This means that information flows from the Internet into the APRS RF network and vice versa. Most people have the misconception that APRS is just for tracking. While many people do use APRS for tracking, APRS is actually a messaging system, particularly useful for telemetry, messaging, weather, and even e-mail.

But wait! There is even MORE big GARS news! At long last, the GARS radio network has *two major improvements*. Firstly, the 147.075+/82.5 repeater now has its Goshen Springs (Jimmy Carter) input back up, extending our coverage far to the South. You may remember we had this input in the past, on top of the "Gwinnett is Great" water tank before they took the tanks down.

Secondly, the GARS 442.100+/100 repeater is also back up to its correct altitude. It is at the same location and had been compromised since the tanks came down. The coverage on the 442.100+/100 machine is nothing short of ...



Kyle W4KDA at SAR Drill
in January

excellent. Try it and I guarantee you will be impressed.

On February 11th, GARS is having a direction finding exercise called the Lazy Fox Hunt. This event is a learning experience for people who want to learn about fox hunting, and will also be a fun outing for people who have fox hunted many times. More information about the Lazy Fox Hunt is listed elsewhere in this edition of the Garzette. I hope to see everyone there!

The combination of the HUGE TechFest, GARS Igate, and repeater system upgrades, makes January an outstanding month for amateur radio in Gwinnett county. My thanks and the thanks on behalf of GARS goes out to each and every one of you who had a hand in making these things happen.

Wishing you great health, wealth, and may all your contacts be 59,

Kyle W4KDA



TechFest?... Tech Fun!!

"I've been to a lot of hamfests. This was better than any hamfest I have ever been to. All of the exhibits were easy to get to and very interesting. The social part of the event was the best part of all." Ron -NV4U.



From the very moment that you walked into the Gwinnett Medical resource center, you could see the excitement in the eyes of all the hams that attended the 2012 Techfest. There were smiles on over 500 faces in anticipation of winning a radio, eating hamburgers and hot dogs, and just having a good ole time. Not only could you stir the people with a stick like a big batch of hot fudge, you could feel the excitement in the air as everyone stopped and looked at the interesting and outrageous exhibits. One of the most interesting presentations was Steve Garrison's, N4SEG-. No hold on a second. Steve changed his call sign to N4TTY. Which is appropriate because his exhibit showed off his antique TTY machines.

When I first walked into the room and heard the clattering of the teletypewriter machines I thought somebody was making hats so I went over to see what kind of hats they were making. You know the sound of the stitching machines when they're sewing your call sign on your favorite new hat. I was pleasantly surprised to see it was not a sewing machine at all. Here was a Kleinschmidt machine, a type writer looking teletypewriter machine buzzing a long on what looked like parchment paper slightly brown tinged like something from another time or place ancient times. It was receiving a message and working and buzzing along typing a message as if it was the most important message ever received. I was mesmerized. Along with about 20 other people in fact you had to fight your way up to get a glimpse of this miraculous machine from the past. Nobody was having more fun than Steve. I think he was buzzin' along even faster than the teletypewriter machine explaining all the details his phe-



nomenal piece of equipment. I'm not sure but I think I overheard him saying that he built it with parts scrounged up and a lot of the parts and pieces were from different machines. It took several different machines to make 1 machine complete.

All of a sudden I heard a lady's voice and everybody in the room stopped, except the teletypewriter machine, to hear the name of the winner of the prize drawing. Sandy Jackson KJ4DRO , with her signature voice, gave away a bunch of prizes. Hams love to win! Sandy had a marvelous time giving away a Yaesu mobile HF radio and a D-Star HT along with a dozen other prizes. Everyone who came were winners in that they enjoyed the terrific displays and presentations.

I looked down and I saw 2 smiling faces , no taller than 4 feet, asking me to answer a question on their paper so they could play the icebreaker game. It was KJ4SUJ Kevin and Kirsten Whitney's 2 boys Jack and Nick . By the look on their faces, it seemed that they were having more fun than anybody in the whole place. Their dad, Kevin

was outside sweating over a hot grill on a trailer cooking hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch. My daughter Amy, Jack, and Nick said the food was a big highlight. David KA4KKF setup a giant hamburger grill-on-a-trailer. Kevin cooked all morning. The only fringe benefit was he probably taste-tested the food before it was served. (not really). Seriously, all 5 of the hamburgers that I ate were fantastic. Hi Hi. I had a great time!

Jeff Cutchins - AB4HF

“All in all, TechFest was a great day!”

As I entered the 2012 TechFest the first sound I heard above the noise was an old teletype clunking away in the background, so I set off to find it. I am an “old school” ham that grew up building radio projects of one type or another. My projects usually included a tube or two, the smell of hot components, and every so often a loud crack of a short circuit or exploding part when I got it wrong.

Before I located the teletype I found the QRP table with many of the kits I have built over the years on display.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

One of the items was a "Tuna Can Radio", was built on-and-in an empty tuna can. usually a single band crystal controlled CW QRP operators have worked the world with, with many hams. The radios are still available from several sources and are often the first very easy kit the skills needed to go on to bigger and



so named for the fact it
The "Tuna Can Radio" is
transmitter that many
and they are still popular
able from several
a ham builds while learning
better kits.

There were many other great examples on the table but the "Tuna Can Radio" was my favorite.

I continued my search
cal news files, with Steve
one would stick their
become an amputee. I
and he explained how
his hope that the old Se-
the heavy use it was



and found the teletype printing historian
Garrison standing guard so that no
fingers in the well oiled gears and
talked to him about the equipment
the unit was hooked up and shared
elenium rectifier stack would hold up to
getting at TechFest.

On around the room I went, collecting
to people until I found my next love, CW
ages and styles. There were keys and
brand new; some that looked like they
thousand operators but all were great to
Bently for a few minutes while he
how those weird looking keys and
sounded when you operated them.



information and talking
keys and "Bugs" of all
"Bugs" that looked
had been used by a
see. I talked to Dick
showed a young man
"Bugs" worked and

TechFest made me wish for the HW-101 days when radios glowed in the dark and heated the shack, all at the same time.

Phil Mcleary N4LNE.



GARS "Lazy Fox" DF Adventure



You are invited to join us for the GARS "Lazy Fox" Direction Finding Adventure. It will take place on Saturday February 11th at 9:30AM starting in the parking lot at the Golden Coral on Riverside Drive after the weekly GARS Family Breakfast.

This one is directed at beginners, but everyone who enjoys fox hunting should enjoy this exercise. This hunt will be "car based", so you do not have to worry about trudging through the woods in the middle of winter. You can expect to get out of your car and take bearings periodically, but mostly you will be driving.

Bring out your gear and I suggest forming teams of 2-3 people. If you have hunted before and have gear, then please take on someone who does not have fox hunting gear. We will have one or two instructors to get everyone started and answer questions before beginning.



This is not a competition, although the first person to find the fox will surely get bragging rights. Fox hunting is a useful skill, and this is meant to be an educational and fun outing. Take your time and enjoy the experience. Feel free to coordinate with each other on the 147.075+/82.5 repeater, and ask questions too.

THE FOX WILL:

- be on 2 meters
- transmit on consistent time intervals
- stay on air as long as reasonably necessary for all hunters to find the fox
- be in Gwinnett County

THE FOX WILL NOT:

- change location
- vary power
- change its signal direction
- intentionally use buildings and hills to give false bearings

You DO NOT have to be a member of GARS to participate.

What-in-the-World is All This Dog Show Talk?

A couple times a year our club is asked to help keep the parking area in order for a large dog show called the "Cherokee Rose Cluster of Dog Shows".

These four kennel clubs: Thursday, Feb. 2nd, 2012 - Griffin Georgia Kennel Club; Friday, Feb. 3rd, 2012 - Sawnee Mountain Kennel Club; Saturday, Feb. 4th, 2012 - Conyers Kennel Club; Sunday, Feb. 5th, 2012 - Lawrenceville Kennel Club get together at the Atlanta Expo Center South.

Our duties include keeping access to the building clear, collecting parking fees, and generally keeping order in the parking areas. We use radio to keep in touch or find out the answer to questions asked by the guests. It's not hard work, but the hours are a little long and most of us are outside no matter what the weather. This past show, the weather was on the mild side, no frost and no rain. We've experienced both. The summer show is usually on the hot side, but bearable.

What do we really do? Enforce the one-way street signs; Watch hundreds of folks in a hurry to get their dog to a ring for judging; Keep vehicles from crowding the loading docks; Try to pick out who looks most like their dog or the other way around; Report and offer assistance for falls or other parking lot mishaps; Listen to folks explain why they don't have to pay to enter, then make them pay; Try to relieve each other every hour or so we can take a little break; Watch the clock; Watch the sun come up; Check every hour or so to be sure the radio is still working, and smile when the rain misses us for the day. You'll also get to see about a hundred or so motor homes. Many of the folks showing dogs come in these MONSTER homes on wheels. There are descent rest rooms and plenty of food vendors for either snacks or meals. We call it two shifts, 6am until 10am and 10am until 2pm, but many work the whole day. Once you've driven the 30 miles to get there, might as well stay. If you need to come at 8am and stay until 1pm we can use the help. We suggest bringing a folding chair just in case you get one of those jobs that allows for sitting. A couple of folks have brought umbrellas for the shade in the summer.

David, KA4KKF, has taken on the responsibility to assign tasks during the day. That also means making sure everyone is comfortable and gets a break. We all know how David works, and he makes it as pleasant as possible.

Several members work the whole four days. They know who they are and we do appreciate their effort.

So now you ask why? Answer: There is a sizable donation made to the club and Gwinnett ARES. This funding is used to support many of our activities. Probably the largest ongoing expense is the county wide multiple repeater system. Then there are activities like JOTA, Jamboree on the Air, for scouts, ARRL Field Day, the holiday party and the expense of a monthly meeting hall. Over the years we have debated the activity several times, but we haven't been able to come up with something that generates as much operating funds with such a little of planning.

Norm Schklar WA4ZXV

GARS Membership

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership,
please visit our website - <http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Chairman - membership@gars.org

You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free - <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Activities we might do in 2012.

Scheduled events (more or less):

- * **Feb 11th (proposed) - Fox hunting** - I'll head up the one I call "The lazy fox". I need an instructor or two to lead the newbies through finding the fox. The fox will be "medium power" (maybe 10W), will be stationary, and will easily be hunted by car (not on foot). The fox will not do anything to make it difficult for the *newbies*. I propose starting after breakfast and lasting until all have found the fox or given up. I want to open this up to Gwinnett ARES folks too.
- * **April 14, 15 - GA QSO party.** (I added this to the GARS calendar) Let's try to figure out how to get more GARS members active on the air.
- * **Work party for shack roof & paint** - I suggest Saturday April 28th.
- * **May Madness Club Contest** - Earl is spearheading this one and has already sent me some preliminary ideas/rules.
- * **June 23, 24 - Field Day.** I added it to the GARS calendar.
- * **Young Eagles** - we need to know when EAA690 is willing to do it

Wish list events:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| * Digital class | * Ham Cram |
| * Antenna building | * Kit building |
| * Soldering class | * Power Pole class |
| * GLASS Net | |
| * Satellite practice day (before Field Day) | |
| * Special Event Stations (this may combine with others on this list) | |

GARS also does these events:

- * TechFest
- * February dog show
- * Dacula Memorial Day Parade
- * August dog show
- * JOTA
- * Stone mountain hamfest
- * ARC hamfest
- * Holiday party

73,

Kyle W4KDA

An Invitation

From The Atlanta Radio Club

We hope you'll join us for the next **Second Sunday Tech Session**. This will be the first of several sessions related to HF operating as we lead up to the Georgia QSO Party and Field Day. We'll start off with logging, particularly getting started with Logbook of the World. Learn how to set it up, use the software, and get those QSO's in.

Date: Second Sunday of the month - Next = February 12

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Dekalb Peachtree Airport - 2000 Airport Road, Suite 227, Atlanta

Based on the feedback from our survey, we've made a bit of a theme over the next few months, adding in some new sessions and bringing back some old favorites like "**Operating In The Park**."

Upcoming Meeting Topics (Subject to Change):

- February 12: Logbook of the World
- March 11: Intro to contesting with WD4DX
- April 8: Off For Easter and the GA QSO party the following weekend
- May 13: Prep for Mobile Ops - at Tanyard Creek with KB4KFT
- June 10: Tentative - What do those pretty knobs on my HF Radio do?

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Also...

We're glad to support the HF outings in the park next Saturday Afternoon (2/4) in Atlanta & Tampa.

More info at: <http://www.atlantaham.org/node/25>.

Jim Reed - N4BFR - for the Atlanta Radio Club Sunday Tech Team



Other Upcoming Events

What:

Radio outing(s) to expose non-HF operators to HF.

When:

The last one was the first Saturday in February. The next event is in the planning stages. When the date is set, we want to be on the air by 1pm, off around 5pm so everyone in the field can be packed by dark.

Where:

Since this is being proposed by the Atlanta Radio club the northern central part of Georgia is the starting point. As operators become interested the "footprint" may spread.

Why:

- 1) Outings are fun, those who set up and operate are going to have fun. Did I mention these things are fun?
- 2) Spread the word that HF operations are fun (see point 1)

Current sponsoring groups (as of 5 Jan 2012):

LxPeditionsAtlanta (groups.yahoo.com/group/LxPeditionsAtlanta),

Second Sunday Tech Session group,
Atlanta Radio Club (www.AtlantaRadioClub.org and
groups.yahoo.com/group/AtlantaRadioClub)

... more to come? ...

Description:

The Atlanta Radio Club and other groups are planning a multiple-site event to encourage people who are inexperienced with HF to learn more about HF operations. For this purpose the we are looking for some volunteers - we see a need two kinds of volunteers.

First, folks who would be willing to go into the field, to operate portable. These folks should be willing to let their stations be used as GOTA stations with themselves as control operators. They should be willing to talk with people, share their experience and knowledge. In effect, these people will be ambassadors for one aspect of the hobby.

We are looking at setting up in public parks with each location having at least two stations. As this is being proposed by the Atlanta Radio Club we are looking at having at least two public parks in the Atlanta metro area. If other groups or clubs are interested in being part they can pick public places convenient for them or join us in Atlanta.

Why public places? The purpose is to make the setups available to anyone who is interested, to encourage non-HF hams to come by and experience HF first hand. Public parks open the possibility of someone seeing the stations and being curious enough to come and see what is going on. If we also interest some non-Hams, so much the better. The LxPeditionsAtlanta and SecondSundayTechSessions groups do regular out-

ings in local parks and have had these sort of walkups happen many times. Some people exposed this way got their first introduction to the hobby and are now licensed hams.

Secondly, we need folks willing to operate from home. This serves two purposes:

- 1) Gives the field operators contacts that are certain. What could be worse than showing someone HF for the first time and not being able to raise a really friendly station?
- 2) Spread the general coverage area. The more folks involved the more word gets spread and the more new HF folks hear about it.

These operators would be working from base stations, perhaps covering two bands; perhaps covering more than one mode. That is up to them.

It would be nice if some of the field stations were showing PKS31 or CW operation. For Technicians phone is going to be the most comfortable mode so we should concentrate on that. PSK31 might also be of interest since it is not so common on VHF but is visual and easy to understand fairly quickly. CW would be nice too if only to remove some of the fear that seems to be attached to it by non-HF folks.

Right now we are thinking 20m and 40m for base bands. I'd like to have a presence on 17m as it is a non-contest band and who knows what sort of contesting might be going on that Saturday. There is plenty of space for everyone.

Let's spread the word, let's see how many clubs might be interested in putting up some sort of effort. If you are a member of a club in the Atlanta area even if you do not intend to participate, pass this along to your club and let's see if someone else might. If you are a member of a club outside the Atlanta area -or- have a contact in such a club post this message to them.

I will post this on ARRL's web site as soon as we start to collect detailed band and frequency information... probably about ten days out from the event.

Contacts for collecting and coordinating efforts and frequencies:

Bill, KB4KFT, kb4kft@ARRL.net (primary contact)

Brian, WD4DX, wd4dx@WD4DX.com (ARC club representative)

Mike, KF4UPO kf4upo@ARRL.net (LxPeditions Atlanta)

... more as volunteers start rolling in ...

Via *Bill Perkins* KB4KFT kb4kft@billperkins.us



GARS Email Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>

Join the GARS Yahoo Group if you are not already a member. To do so, go to the GARS Yahoo Group web site (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>) and then click on the Join This Group! link on the main page.

If you have joined the group, you can Post a message by sending an email to GARS@yahoogroups.com

The Yahoo Group is for GARS friends and members to share information, ask questions, and make announcements.

This is your group and each member is welcome to post questions or comments relating to amateur radio. Use it! With all the new hams in the area, this is great place to ask for help. There's someone out there reading the emails that can help.



Also, join us on **facebook**: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

The advertisement features the Ad Council logo. It shows two steps: 1. A red smartphone with a red circle containing the number 1. 2. Two hands performing chest compressions on a person's chest with a red circle containing the number 2. The text "Call 911" is next to the phone icon. To the right, it says "Push hard and fast in the center of the chest. Learn more at handsonlycpr.org". The American Heart Association logo is in the bottom right corner.

The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar - WA4ZXV who prints the newsletter, and Dave Bruse - W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 1st of each month for inclusion in that month's issue.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7PM.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN
770-689-6620 or n4gyn@arrl.net

JOIN ARRL
- OR -
**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
THROUGH GARS**

Help the GARS Treasury by applying for ARRL membership or renewing your ARRL membership through GARS. By applying for ARRL membership through GARS we are able to keep \$15.00 of the normal membership fee for our Treasury. We can keep \$2.00 from each renewal.

Show your support for both organizations by applying through GARS.

Ralph Pickwick – KJ4CNC, GARS Treasurer, will have the ARRL applications at the monthly meetings for your use. We only ask that you don't wait until the last minute to renew, as we will only be sending the applications to ARRL on a monthly basis. We will only be accepting personal checks with the applications (no PayPal).

If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Ralph at KJ4CNC@arrl.net.



UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

SouthEast US



02/18/2012 | [Freeze Fest](#)

Location: Locust Fork, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Blount County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4blt.org>

02/25/2012 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)

Location: Dalton , GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Dalton Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://DaltonHamfest.com>

03/03/2012 | [Alabama Section Convention \(BirmingHamfest\)](#)

Location: Birmingham, AL

Type: ARRL Convention, pending Executive Committee approval

Sponsor: Birmingham Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4cue.com>

05/12/2012 | [Heart of Georgia Hamfest](#)

Location: Byron, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Central GA ARC, Middle GA Radio Club, & BMSRC

Website: <http://wa4ort.com>

06/02/2012 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA

Type: ARRL Convention (pending Executive Committee approval)

Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club

Website: <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,

Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org

WANTED

GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA
President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG
Vice President

Hal Collier, W4IGE
Secretary

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
Treasurer, Apparel Manager

Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO
Program Manager

Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Membership Chairman, VE Team

David Adcock, KA4KKF
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman

Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ
Public Information Officer

Norm Sckhlar, WA4ZXV
TechFest Chairman

Ray Bailey, N4GYN
GARZette Editor

Jeff Cutchins AB4HF
Multimedia Chairman

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
W4GR Trustee

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM
Repeater Chairman

Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker

Phil McCleary, N4LNE
Net Manager

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor

GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone	<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.255(+) MHz 107.2 PL Tone
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<u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR	<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone
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<u>D-Star</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)	<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone 442.100(+) 82.5 PL Tone
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Main Repeater Site Oak Street, Lawrenceville	Backup Repeater Site Lanier Mountain, Snellville
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The following members are celebrating birthdays in February:

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS**

John Astleford (W4NWY)

Lauren Atkin

Manuel Dominguez (N5JMD)

Kelly Everest (K4NFX)

Eddie Foust (WD4JEM)

Sandy Jackson (KJ4DRO)

William Kelly (W4WNK)

Philip McCleary (N4LNE)

Carlton McPherson (WA4ZUW)

Yoshiaki (Sam) Ogane (ND1Y)

Rishov Sarkar (KK4DFO)

George Sensibar (W9RR)

Michael Swiderski (K4HBI)

Dennis Weaver (KJ4ZUA)

Roger Weed (KL7HOT)

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
- ♦ Every Monday at 8 p.m.: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9 p.m.: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters
- ♦ Every Saturday at 7:30 a.m.: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

**Meeting Minutes
GARS General Meeting Dec. 16, 2011**

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, GARS President, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm at the EAA building.

Introductions of first time visitors and others present.

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC

Membership – Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reported the following:

Robby Nelson, KK4BSA, voted in as new member.

John Morgan, KD4ATL, voted in as new member.

Sam Thomas, KD4VDE, voted in as new member.

Charles Burts, KK4FNE, voted in as new member.

GARS has 201 active members

Program Manager – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO, announced:

February's program will be "A Different View of Software Defined Radio" by John Ackermann, N8UR.

March's program will be "T32C, DXpedition to Kiritimati (Christmas Island)" by Paul Manno, KG4UVU.

April's program will be "How to turn a bale of wire and fiberglass into a hex beam" by Bruce Brown, WA8IQF.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reminded everyone about club officer elections at the February GARS meeting. There were no new nominations.

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, reminded everyone about Techfest on January 14th. It will be held at the Gwinnett Hospital System Resource Center at 665 Duluth Highway. There will be 27 exhibitors demonstrating methods and modes of amateur radio communications. There will be forums, a chili cookoff, and a raffle for an FT-857D. Volunteers should arrive at 8am.

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced the GA QSO Party on April 14th and 15th.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reminded everyone about the Dog show Feb 2-5 and requested that people volunteer for one or more shifts

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced the Lazy Fox Hunt which will be held on Feb 11th. Refer to www.GARS.org for details.

Program was "QSLing and the Logbook of the World" given by Mike Weathers, ND4V.

Break

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, requested that people volunteer to write articles for the Garzette.

Prize Drawing

There were 63 attendees at the meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:04pm

Hal Collier W4IGE, Secretary



What's new on the WEB SITE?

- ◆ You should notice a change to the user menu. It will change when you log in to give you more options.
- ◆ The Apparel link now features PAYPAL to order your GARS Apparel, as well as downloading an order form.
- ◆ Are you using the web site to renew your membership? You can use PayPal to renew only your GARS membership or become a new member.
- ◆ The ARRL renewal must be done in person with the Treasurer.
- ◆ Do you get the GARZETTE from the web site? It's in the File Download menu selection in the Newsletter Folder.

73, *David* KA4KKF

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

February 2012							Print	Week	Month	Agenda
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
							Feb 1	2	3	4
				6am Dog Show Fun Ra 9pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET			6am Dog Show Fun Ra 7:30am Breakfast at Golden Coral on Riverside			
29	30	31								
5	6	7								
6am Dog Show Fun Ra 8pm GARS 2m Net		6:30pm GARS Exec Meeting								
12	13	14								
8pm GARS 2m Net		5pm Dinner at the Flying Machine 7pm <u>GARS</u> Meeting								
19	20	21								
8pm GARS 2m Net				8pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET						
26	27	28								
8pm GARS 2m Net				8pm GARS ROUND TABLE NET						

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time

[+ Google Calendar](#)

Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.

First Sunday, ODD Months

2 p.m. (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)
WCARS VEC
Braselton Public Utility Building
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA
Roger Gibson, WB4T
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560

First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 p.m. (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)
WCARS VEC
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs Rd, Gainesville, GA
Perry Roper, KO4RD
(770) 536-3056

Second Saturday, ODD Months

ARRL VEC
8:30 a.m.
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Varone, W4ETN
(770) 978-3179

Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI
2:00 p.m.
Gwinnett County Fire Station #5
3001 Old Norcross Road
Duluth, GA 30096
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Email: w4dtr@arrl.net

Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI
3 p.m. (Except December)
Auburn City Hall Council Room
1369 Fourth Avenue
Auburn, GA
Steve Donellan, N5SMD
(404) 520-0368

(cont. next column)

Ham Exam Results for February 2012

We had a great day Jan. 8 at our monthly ham exam session. We had eight applicants who all passed. Two applicants took Tech and General, and passed both.

Ham exam results for 1/8/12:

4 new Technicians
2 new Generals
1 upgrade to General
1 upgrade to Extra

We also had an excellent exam session Sat Feb. 4th. 15 of 15 applicants passed! A handful got all 35 questions correct!

Ham exam results for 2/4/12:

15 new Technicians

Congratulations to Will Perkins, W1ZRV, for a
JOB WELL DONE!!!

Thanks to the VE's who made these exam session possible:

Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Steve Back, WB2OGY
Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
Larry Whited, WB4FGF
Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC
Brian Page, N4TRB
Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF
Louis Shulman, KJ4DRW
Robert Pursley, WD4KQQ

Thanks and 73,

Dave Bruse W4DTR

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7 p.m. @ United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770) 942-6466

Fourth Sunday

2:30 p.m. Georgia Tech
VanLeer Elec. Building
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.
See www.w4aql.com
Alexander G. Carver
(404) 894-2936
acarver@ece.gatech.edu

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC
Downtown Marietta
Fire Station #1, Training Room
112 Haynes Street
Marietta, Georgia 30060
Meeting begins at 7:00 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club
Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

—
N.E. Georgia ARC
Commerce Public Library
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC
Room W218
Van Leer Electrical Engineering
Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist Church
Intersection of :
Annistown Rd & Spain Rd.
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club
Board Room of The Shepherd Center
at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta
at 10:00 AM

Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League
Masonic Lodge
194 Milton Avenue
Alpharetta, Georgia
meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>



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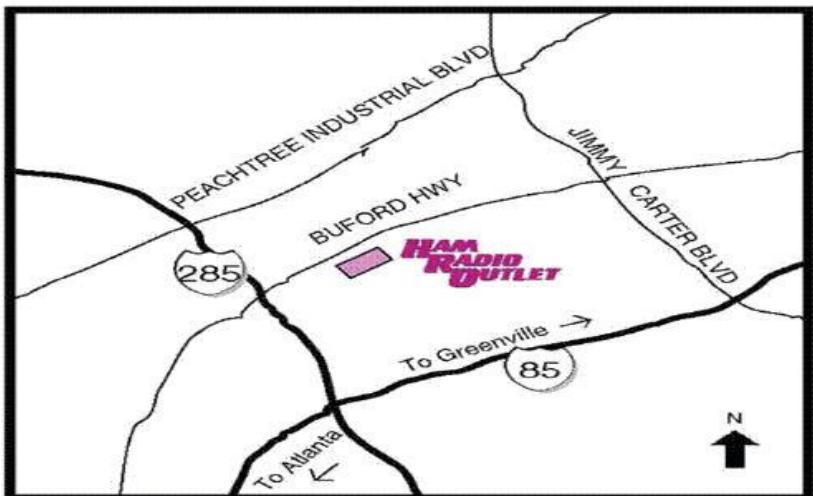
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